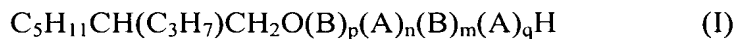


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An alkoxyate mixture comprising ~~consisting of~~ alkoxyates of the formula (I)



where

A is ethyleneoxy,

B propyleneoxy

groups A and B being present in the form of blocks in the stated sequence,

p is a number from 1 to 3,

n is a number from 0.25 to 10,

m is a number from 2 to 10,

q is a number from 1 to 5,

from 85 to 96% by weight of alkoxyates A1, in which C_5H_{11} is n- C_5H_{11} , and

from 4 to 15% by weight of alkoxyates A2, in which C_5H_{11} is $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{CH}_2$ and/or $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2$,

being present in the mixture.

Claim 2 (Previously presented): The alkoxyate mixture according to claim 1, wherein C_3H_7 is n- C_3H_7 .

Claims 3-4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Currently amended): A process for the preparation of an alkoxylate mixture according to claim 1 comprising reacting a ~~parent alcohol~~ 2-propyl heptanol mixture with ethylene oxide and propylene oxide under alkoxylation conditions.

Claim 6 (Currently amended): The process for the preparation of an alkoxylate mixture according to claim 5, wherein the reacting a ~~parent alcohol~~ 2-propyl heptanol mixture with ethylene oxide and propylene oxide comprises a double metal cyanide compound as a catalyst.

Claim 7 (Previously presented): An emulsifier, foam regulator and wetting agent for hard surfaces comprising the alkoxylate mixture according to Claim 1.

Claim 8 (Previously presented): A method for preparing detergents, surfactant formulations for cleaning hard surfaces, humectants, cosmetic, pharmaceutical and crop protection formulations, finishes, coating materials, adhesives and leather degreasing agents, formulations for the textile industry comprising adding the alkoxylate mixture according to claim 1.

Claim 9 (Previously presented): A detergent, cleaning agent, wetting agent, coating material, adhesive, leather degreasing agent, humectant or textile treatment composition, additive for mineral building materials or cosmetic, pharmaceutical or crop protection formulation comprising an alkoxylate mixture according to claim 1.

Claim 10 (Previously presented): A processing method comprising one selected from the group consisting of emulsifying, foam regulating and wetting of hard surfaces employing

the alkoxylate mixture according to claim 1, wherein the processing method is one selected from the group consisting of fiber processing, metal processing, food processing, water treatment, paper processing, mineral processing, fermentation, emulsion polymerization and preparing mineral building materials.